TOWARDS AN OLD GROWTH STRATEGY

• Old Growth Strategy Project • Ministry of Forests • September 1990

SHORT TERM DEFERRAL OF CRITICAL AREAS OF OLD GROWTH

Recommendations of the Conservation of Areas Team Sub-Committee

September 5, 1990

• prepared by the Conservation of Areas Team Sub-Committee •

91-00134/

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Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of
Parks

4000 Seymour Place
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August 20, 1990
File: 3-10-43-7

Mr. John Cuthbert
Chairman of the Inter-Ministry
Management Committee
Chief Forester
Ministry of Forests
595 Pandora
Victoria, B.C.
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Dear Sir:

Re: Short Term Deferrals

The sub-group of the Conservation of Areas Team, has completed the task of identifying candidates for short term deferral from forest harvesting. The attached report presents our analysis for your consideration.

I want to thank Ministry of Forests' staff and the Old Growth Project office for their considerable assistance in undertaking this task. I hope that you will make the report public as soon as possible so that full discussion of its implications can proceed.

I am available to meet with you on this item upon your request.

Yours truly,

Derek

D. Thompson
Chair
Conservation of Areas Team

Director
Planning & Conservation

Att.

DT/nm
elr/171-90D

INTRODUCTION

The identification of areas which will be preserved as part of a long term integrated plan for management of Old Growth in British Columbia is one of five key components of the inter-ministry Old Growth Strategy for B.C. In order to ensure that, during the preparation of those long term plans, critical areas and features are not lost to development, it was decided to identify areas for temporary deferral of harvesting . The deferral would be for two years from August 1, 1990 to August 1, 1992.

This report presents the initial conclusions of the deferral project which was undertaken by a sub-group of the Conservation of Areas Team.

- **A short summary** presents the highlights of recommendations by the group which was established to review candidates for deferral.
- **Section One** of the report briefly introduces the background to the work.
- **Section Two** documents key aspects of the process which was followed.
- **Section Three** presents discussion and recommendations on a number of issues which involved more than one specific proposal for deferral.
- **Section Four** presents a summary of the individual candidates and recommendations.
- **Section Five** presents the proposed process to deal with the proposals.

Participants

Although the Chairman takes sole responsibility for the wording of this report, it must be understood that the work which went into this project (entailing long hours stolen from busy personal schedules), is the result of a sub-group drawn from the Conservation of Areas Team. They are Patrick Armstrong, John Barker, John Broadhead, Mike Fenger, with technical assistance from Terry Vold and Jim Pojar. Many thanks are also due to the consultant Gary Runka, ably assisted by Joan Sawicki and Shaundel Runka, for their diligent, organized and persistent research. Their work was of invaluable assistance to the Conservation of Areas sub-group.

Finally, the proponents of the deferrals and the Ministry of Forests staff who collectively spent many hours in preparing and verifying information deserve special thanks for their endeavours to make this an effective and viable process.

SUMMARY

The Conservation of Areas Team of the Old Growth Project has been charged with the responsibility of identifying areas which, because they may be critical to a long term strategy for old growth conservation, should be deferred from forest harvesting for a maximum of two years, commencing August 1, 1990.

A sub-group of the team has undertaken a public call for identification of candidate areas. These have been screened against criteria which were established by the group and reviewed with other members of the project.

The following general recommendations are made:

1. ESTABLISHING DEFERRALS

1.1 The Ministry of Forests should proceed expeditiously to release this report to all affected parties. Further, that it establish the notations, referral and review structures recommended, and then set up a process within the Ministry to review appeals against the recommendations of the Conservation of Areas Sub-Groups' recommendations. That process should include participation from representatives of industry and the public. It should be periodically reviewed with the Old Growth Working Group, and finally it should be regionally based.

1.2 The Ministry of Forests should approach the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources to request reserves over those areas deferred as a result of this process or as a result of the referrals to other planning processes.

2. RELATIONSHIPS TO OTHER PLANNING PROCESSES

2.1 To ensure close collaboration of existing local and regional planning processes with the Old Growth Project, the I.M.M.C. approve referrals to the appropriate planning processes.

3. AREAS NOT UNDER THREAT OF IMMINENT DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Implement immediately a procedure which will identify on all Ministry status and operational maps, those candidates for old growth deferral which are not expected to be developed within the next two years. This should be done in consultation with tenure holders.

3.2 If a proposal for development before September 1992 is received, it will be reviewed according to the established criteria.

4. INFORMATION GAPS AND CRITICAL SPECIES

4.1 Ministry of Forests' Inventory Branch continue to give high priority to analysis and aggregation of their information by stand type and biogeoclimatic sub-zone.

4.2 Inventory be made of the few, but most significant, Provincial Parks without adequate forest inventory. It is understood that detailed inventory of Strathcona is to begin shortly and that experiments are underway to derive some inventory information from remote sensing (satellite, etc.) sources.

4.3 When these have been completed it may be necessary to re-address some areas not considered critical for deferral, but this is likely to emerge as part of the long term strategy for old growth.

4.4 Western Red Cedar and Douglas Fir leading stands, (especially those of outstanding or specially representative character), should be located and identified as valuable reserve prime candidates.

5. RELATIONSHIP TO GREATER VANCOUVER AND VICTORIA WATER DISTRICTS

5.1 Letters be sent to each Water District, explaining the Old Growth Project and short term deferral process, inviting the districts to identify and protect the specific candidates and inviting their participation in the long term planning process. We would also suggest that in the case of the Seymour Demonstration Forest, they include old growth in their forest interpretation program.

6. DEALING WITH LARGE INTACT WATERSHEDS

6.1 A separate review process should be instituted to identify and prepare long term strategies for the existing large intact watersheds in British Columbia.

6.2 Such strategies should incorporate the already announced processes for preparation of system plans for provincial parks and forest wilderness areas.

6.3 Inter-agency, public planning processes should be undertaken to ensure consideration of old growth values where development is proposed in any remaining large, undeveloped watershed, prior to completion and acceptance of those system plans.

6.4 Further scientific analysis and literature review should be undertaken to substantiate the role and value of these watersheds in an overall conservation strategy. This work should be comprehensive and subject to broad, inter-disciplinary peer review.

7. ***The Koeye***

7.1 The Old Growth Management Committee approach the licensee and the Ministry of Environment to see if long term options can be kept open without a significant negative impact on MacMillan Bloedel harvesting plans in the general area.

8. ***The Tahsish***

8.1 The Old Growth Management Committee review this issue and either confirm the imminent development or seek a deferral.

9. **OLD GROWTH AND CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT**

9.1 The Spotted Owl Recovery Team be directed to review the deferral proposals and identify or confirm those which are justified for temporary deferral, by September 30, 1990.

9.2 The preparation of a plan for Spotted Owl habitat protection and management, be considered as a priority component for the old growth project, and that a plan be prepared by September 1, 1992.

9.3 Where Marbled Murrelet nests and confirmed sightings have been verified, areas can be justified for short term deferral.

9.4 In an area of imminent development, where, in the opinion of experts from either the Ministry of Environment or the Provincial Museum, Marbled Murrelet nesting is likely, development should only occur after consultation between the agencies and the operator, to ensure that all reasonable precautions have been taken not to destroy nesting areas.

9.5 Further research into Marbled Murrelet behaviour should be encouraged.

9.6 The Ministry of Forests consider a process to prepare an old growth strategy to protect critical wildlife and representative habitat types in association with existing protected areas in the Robson Valley.

The Individual Candidates

Altogether 127 proposals were made before the deadline. These affect 89 specific locations.

17	Areas are proposed for deferral.
2	Areas are not site-specific.
25	Areas are referred to other planning processes for further consideration.
20	Areas were found to be not under threat of imminent development.
2	Areas are referred to larger government studies.
8	Areas are referred to a study of the Marbled Murrelet prior to any decisions.
11	Areas are not recommended for deferral.
4	Areas were not resolved and the I.M.M.C. is requested to resolve.

Overall Assessment of the Process

Having dealt with the specific proposals, it is important to offer some observations on what appear to be both the positive aspects and the shortcomings of the process. First the shortcomings:

Because of insufficient information, it was not possible to deal with many of the participants' concerns. The issue of fragmentation of species could only be dealt with in a very basic and simplistic way. Similarly it was not possible to deal rigorously with the question as to whether the particular species or association was already protected in a park; so, some of the most important criteria could not be used. Similarly, the time for the process simply did not permit an adequate opportunity to resolve basic differences of philosophy between participants over the nature of old growth and the definition of what is critical. While all participants were able to agree on the principal biological and ecological characteristics of old growth forests, it was not so simple to achieve agreement about more subjective characteristics. When it came to dealing with deferrals, therefore, those values were very difficult to deal with. This affected a number of specific locations.

The issue of intact watersheds was particularly intractable of true consensus at this time. The value of these watersheds is a combination of biological, aesthetic, philosophic and ecological characteristics, largely associated with wilderness. The group could not agree that minor development incursions in the short run would threaten old growth options because the groups' only consensus definition really emphasized the scientific and biological characteristics. Arguments based on those characteristics are not well developed yet, so the intact watersheds must be dealt with in the long term strategies for conservation of areas and for the parks and ecological reserves systems.

On the positive side:

- The group did demonstrate that it is possible to achieve consensus on many issues. Processes were agreed to for dealing with old growth dependent wildlife.

- Suggestions are made on how to link this process into, and strengthen existing local planning processes throughout the province.

- For the first time in B.C., the public throughout the province was asked to identify areas for deferral from harvesting.

- In the end it must be remembered that this is only a first step in the old growth project. Even if it succeeds only in identifying gaps in our knowledge and spurring our resolve to deal with them, we will have taken a positive step.

SECTION ONE - BACKGROUND

The Role of the Conservation of Areas Team

The Conservation of Areas Team is one of five groups established under the terms of the Old Growth Project. The team is composed of 11 participants drawn from forest industry, public groups and provincial government ministries. The assignments given to the team are:

- To initiate action to identify critical old growth areas which may need to be placed under short term deferral.
- To establish criteria to be used to select candidates.
- To develop a long term framework for Old Growth Reserves including a plan for integration with existing land reserve systems.

This report deals exclusively with the process and initial recommendations in the identification of candidates and recommendations for short term deferrals from forest development. To undertake that task a sub-group was formed under the chairmanship of Mike Fenger, Ministry of Environment, and composed of representatives of the Forest Industry, John Barker, Western Forest Products; the public; John Broadhead, Earthlife Canada; and Patrick Armstrong, Moresby Consulting, and with the assistance of staff from the Ministry of Forests.

The sub-groups' responsibility was to consider the ecological and subjective values of old growth and to make recommendations as to the justification for deferral. It was not given any mandate to consider the social or economic implications of such actions.

Why Deferrals

When the Old Growth Project was being initiated, it was recognized that preparation of a comprehensive long term strategy with full public discussion will require some time. During that period forest harvesting might, in some situations, result in loss of critical old growth values which could not be compensated by preservation or management of similar areas elsewhere. Consequently, the notion of temporary reserves was born.

These reserves were seen as:

- Being for a maximum of two years only.
- Situated only in areas of critical old growth value.
- Covering only those areas where development was scheduled before Sept. 1992.

Principles for Deferral

Following from the stated need, a number of simple principles were recognized:

- **The area under threat of imminent development must be truly critical old growth.** That is, because of biological scarcity or exceptional social values few, if any, areas could be considered as alternatives in the long term strategy.

- **The criteria for judging deferral candidates should include both ecological and subjective (social) factors.**
  Old growth is primarily a complex, biological phenomenon (see definition contained in the Candidate Areas Nomination Form - **Appendix I**). However, it is given value by its association with both heritage and current recreation uses. Those values, therefore, also warrant consideration.

- **There must be an opportunity for public identification of candidates.**
  Since the Old Growth Project is, by its nature, a public process, then it follows that the deferral process should include an opportunity for the public to propose the candidates.

- **Those parties directly affected by a deferral proposal should be consulted.**
  Although deferrals are for a maximum of two years, it must be recognized that forest tenure holders are required to make considerable investments prior to harvesting. Local area residents may also be affected. The Inter-Ministry Management Committee will, therefore, need to assess the potential impact of any deferral and allow tenure holders to propose options.

- **Critical Wildlife Species, where clearly impacted, should be protected.**
  Certain species which are old growth dependent, were recognized as requiring interim deferral. However, it was recognized that the exact relationship between old growth and some species, e.g. Marbled Murrelet, is not well understood. It was agreed that considerable discretion would be required in using this criterion.

- **Where existing locally based, intensive public planning processes are underway, those should be utilized to review and propose short term deferrals.**

Need for Speed

There existed among the members of the Old Growth Project Team at the first meeting in April a concern that deferrals needed to be put in place very quickly if critical areas were not to be lost. Matched against this consideration was the stated need for public opportunities to propose candidates. Such a process needed to be simple, clear and open with adequate time for members of the public to research and document proposals.

In May all members of the project received and distributed widely a package of information and proposal forms. A deadline of August 1 was set for receipt of proposals.

Deferrals and the Long Term Strategy

The deferrals are the first step in a process to identify a system of protected areas. They are simply an interim measure to protect long term options. The establishment of a deferral does not, in any way, indicate that an area is to be permanently set aside from harvest.

The deferrals are not a land use designation.

In the event that the long term strategy is not completed by August 1992, the deferred areas must be reviewed individually and a decision made on their status.

Relationship to Other Protected Area System Plans

Old growth areas identified for long term preservation will largely be part of the plans for the major systems of protected areas in British Columbia; i.e. provincial parks, ecological reserves and forest wilderness areas. A public planning process for the park system ***(Parks Plan 90)*** has been announced and planning for the ecological reserves and forest wilderness systems is approaching a point where public consultation can be anticipated. The long term strategy for old growth preservation areas must be fully integrated into those planning processes.

SECTION TWO - THE PROCESS

This section presents a very brief summary of the process followed by the Conservation of Areas Team and Sub-Group. The process and its components were prepared by the sub-group, reviewed by the whole team and all project participants at meetings in April and June, and finalized and implemented subsequent to the June meeting.

Criteria

A great deal of discussion surrounded the question as to what were the essential criteria to be applied to identifying critical old growth.

In the end, a simple set of criteria evolved based on various measures of ecological scarcity; association with old growth dependent wildlife species; the amount of area already protected; the significance of subjective (social) values. These are documented in the Candidate Areas Nomination Form found in **Appendix I**.

These criteria were intended to be applied as a discrete set of factors which were to be weighed individually. The sub-group was assigned to meet, review the proposals and attempt to reach consensus on the rating of the criteria. Following that the sub-group was to make recommendations which would ensure retention of long term options for the preservation of old growth areas.

The criteria required the development of a large amount of information on the amount of existing old growth in various subdivisions of the province, such as eco-regions, biogeographic zones and sub-zones. This information was considered essential to identifying critical forest types and individual species. The Ministry of Forests Inventory Branch was requested to prepare the information by August 7, 1990.

Public Referral

For the first time in British Columbia, a province-wide public review process was undertaken to identify areas considered critical for old growth protection and under imminent threat of development. The process was simple, involving the distribution of application forms which were submitted to the Old Growth Project office. There, each proposal form was numbered sequentially according to the time of receipt.

Upon receipt, the project consultant undertook a review of each application to substantiate the information requested in the form. It was particularly important to establish that development was imminent, as well as to check that the ecological information was accurate.

The applications varied dramatically in the quality of information given. Some contained merely the name, location and a very general rationale for deferral of an area. Others were the result of a great deal of very thorough research. The consultant required anything from one hour, to a maximum of two days, to research the information necessary to make a decision on deferral.

Candidate Review

By August 1st some one hundred and twenty-seven applications had been sent in. These covered 89 individual areas. Their review required over 20 hours of discussion by the sub-group with some individual cases requiring more than an hour of intense debate. Without the many hours of discussion on the principles and criteria to be used, it would not have been possible to review the proposals efficiently or consistently.

Each candidate was reviewed against the information available on each criterion. Unfortunately, because of the necessity to complete the candidate reviews quickly to satisfy public desire for a quick decision, it was not possible to obtain information from Forest Inventory Branch on biogeographic sub-zones and species type. However, the work by Pojar, Roemer and Joy and early analysis of old growth species inventory by Evelyn Hamilton helped to substantiate that certain species and associations are indeed critical. In addition, several experts from various agencies, were available to the sub-group for consultation. Some attended all, or part of, the discussions and Jim Pojar was able to participate in the entire session.

The review process proceeded on the basis of open argument on the issues, clarification of technical information, presentation of points-of-view and then, attempts to find consensus. All sub-group participants were highly motivated to reach consensus but no pressure was permitted by anyone to achieve that agreement. All were encouraged to state their views and principles in the event that an overall agreement could not be reached.

It must be emphasized that the sub-group dealt only with the justification for old growth deferral. No consideration was made of the potential social and economic impact of such a decision, and there was no discussion of the recommendations with the public or with tenure holders.

Late Submissions and Appeals

A number of submissions were sent in after the August 1st deadline. It was not possible to collect the background information and deal with these at the screening process in early August. Further submissions can be expected.

In order for the Conservation of Areas Team to proceed with the task of preparing a long term strategy, it is imperative that, if the I.M.M.C. wishes to deal with these and other issues, an alternative mechanism be established in the Ministry of Forests using the principles, practice and criteria laid out in this report.

Establishing Deferrals

Almost all of the deferral candidates are located in Crown Land or Crown Land tenures for forestry. The decision to defer or refer to another process, therefore, rests largely in the Ministry of Forests, with the exception of mineral, oil and natural gas tenures and potential reserves against development of those.

It is recommended that:

- **The Ministry of Forests should proceed expeditiously to release this report to all affected parties. Further, that it establish the notations, referral and review structures recommended, and then set up a process within the Ministry to review appeals against the recommendations of the Conservation of Areas Sub-Groups' recommendations. That process should include participation from representatives of industry and the public. It should be periodically reviewed with the Old Growth Working Group, and finally it should be regionally based.**

- **The Ministry of Forests should approach the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources to request reserves over those areas deferred as a result of this process or as a result of the referrals to other planning processes.**

SECTION THREE - SPECIAL ISSUES

- Referral of proposals to existing planning processes
- Ensuring that candidates which were not Imminent Development are not harvested before Sept. 1992
- Information gaps and critical species
- Dealing with forest land in other jurisdictions
- Dealing with Old Growth dependent wildlife
- Dealing with the issue of Intact Watersheds
- Deferrals and work toward the long term Conservation Strategy

During the course of reviewing the proposals for temporary deferral, it became clear that a number of issues affected more than one specific proposal. Further, the group recognized that a number of issues require resolution by, or referral to, existing or potential processes which would be better able to deal with the specific situations addressed by proponents. The group, therefore, prepared a number of recommendations which are presented below. In the following section (Section Four) specific notations are made against individual proposals which are affected by these general issues.

Referral of Proposals to Existing Planning Processes

The work of the Old Growth Strategy does not exist in isolation from resource management generally in the province. If the strategy is to be successful in the long run, it must be continuously tied in with the complex array of planning processes already underway. Only in this way will all participants come to understand and be sensitive to the long term needs for old growth conservation in British Columbia.

Very early in the group's deliberations it became clear that a number of candidates were situated in areas where some form of inter-agency and public, strategic level resource use planning was already underway at either a district or local level.

In other instances it was found that particular old growth dependent wildlife species are the subject of special study and review. In some of these instances planning teams, with quite varied but often limited responsibilities, have been put in place.

The group was unanimous in wishing to affirm and strengthen the roles of these processes. It was recognized that the time, state of work completion, and current mandates of each process vary greatly. No single recommendation can cover the entire gamut. However, it was also recognized that considerable, detailed work is being undertaken and the group did not wish to negate that effort. So, in cases where, for

example, an L.U.R.P. or a Task Force or Recovery Team projects are, or are about to be, underway, the group has devised a strategy of referring its recommendations to those groups for their consideration, as well as to the Old Growth Inter-Ministry Management Committee. In the following section (Section Four) specific notations are made against individual candidates.

It is therefore recommended that:

- **To ensure close collaboration of existing local and regional planning processes with the Old Growth Project, the I.M.M.C. approve referrals to the appropriate planning processes.**

Dealing with Candidates for Deferral Where Development is not Imminent

The sub-group dealt with a number (20) of candidates which the Ministry of Forests confirmed were not planned for imminent development (i.e. within the next two years). Because of the large number of candidates in the whole list, those which were not under imminent development were not considered any further for deferral.

The group, therefore, considered it prudent that Ministry of Forests immediately institute a procedure which will ensure that the development status of these areas does not change without review by the Old Growth Project.

It is therefore recommended that the Ministry of Forests:

- **Implement immediately a procedure which will identify on all Ministry status and operational maps, those candidates for old growth deferral which are not expected to be developed within the next two years. This should be done in consultation with tenure holders.**

- **If a proposal for development before September 1992 is received, it will be reviewed according to the established criteria.**

Information Gaps and Critical Species:

The criteria for assessing criticality and scarcity depended heavily on having forest inventory data available for the entire province at the biogeoclimatic sub-zone and stand type level. Unfortunately, despite the valiant efforts of staff, this will not be available until September 90 at the earliest. Data on areas already in preservation status (Parks, Ecological Reserves, etc.) were also needed, and only available as estimates based on the earlier work of Pojar, Roemer and Joy, who did not have the benefit of detailed inventory information.

Because of clearly expressed public desire for the project to move ahead, it was decided to proceed with the deliberations. In that event the local knowledge of recognized experts was used to assist the group. However, it must be recognized that, as a result, the issue of fragmentation of critical old growth area could not be dealt with effectively.

However, the data available did assist in identifying particular species which appeared to be more or less critical for protection.

It is therefore recommended that:

- **Ministry of Forests' Inventory Branch continue to give high priority to analysis and aggregation of their information by stand type and biogeoclimatic sub-zone.**

- **Inventory be made of the few, but most significant, Provincial Parks without adequate forest inventory. It is understood that detailed inventory of Strathcona is to begin shortly and that experiments are underway to derive some inventory information from remote sensing (satellite, etc.) sources.**

- **When these have been completed it may be necessary to re-address some areas not considered critical for deferral, but this is likely to emerge as part of the long term strategy for old growth.**

- **Western Red Cedar and Douglas Fir leading stands (especially those of outstanding or specially representative character) should be located and identified as valuable reserve prime candidates.**

Dealing with Forest Land in Other Jurisdictions

When the project was being designed, the group anticipated that many small candidates for deferral on private lands would be received. In the event very few proposals were received for lands outside the major forest tenures.

Two major exceptions were the watersheds for Vancouver and Victoria. These watersheds are managed by their respective water districts and the land involved is a complex mixture of ownerships, including water district, regional district and Crown Land under various tenures. Neither water district was able to provide detailed inventory information on old growth because of the nature of their data. Both authorities have been acknowledged for their sound forest management practices; however, neither appear to have a policy on old growth management.

It would seem from the limited available information that stands of very significant, critical old growth species occur in these watersheds. In the Victoria watershed there may be old growth Douglas Fir stands which are now in very limited supply on southern Vancouver Island. In the Coquitlam watershed of the Vancouver Water District, stands of exceptionally large western red cedar have been cited. These would be particularly important for harvest deferral since so few remain in south coastal areas. The Seymour Demonstration Forest may have a few old growth stands which, because of their value for public access and interpretation, should be protected.

It is therefore recommended that:

- **Letters be sent to each Water District, explaining the Old Growth Project and short term deferral process, inviting the districts to identify and protect the specific candidates and inviting their participation in the long term planning process. It is also suggested that in the case of the Seymour Demonstration Forest, they include old growth in their forest interpretation program.**

Dealing with the Issue of Intact Watersheds

The desire on the part of a number of applicants to set aside large, intact watersheds presented a number of problems.

It is argued that these watersheds present the best chance to conserve whole, representative eco-systems which would be core areas in the long term strategy for sustained conservation of old growth and all associated habitats and plant associations. It is also argued that these watersheds are often critical for wilderness preservation and provision of recreation and tourism opportunities. Finally, it is proposed that few intact watersheds have been protected and, in certain parts of the province, opportunities to protect more are dwindling fast.

This issue presented the group with irreconcilable problems. Some accept the value of whole, intact watersheds while others argue that the issue extends far beyond the Old Growth Strategy and involves the future system planning for National and Provincial Parks and Forest Wilderness Areas.

Given the acknowledged lack of clear, scientific evidence on the role and value of intact watersheds, some members felt that it was not possible to justify short term deferral of development. Where proposed imminent development involved only a small proportion of a given watershed, it was apparent to all that this would not irrevocably affect society's options for long term preservation of old growth forests in that watershed.

The group identified a number of watersheds, some of which contain significant old growth; but it was unable to achieve a consensus that any could be justified for short term deferral. On two (the Koeye and Tahsish) no consensus was reached by the group (see below); on the other eight it was concluded that a separate process is needed.

Because this is becoming a highly charged and emotional issue, which extends well beyond the Old Growth Strategy, the following recommendations are made:

- **A separate review process should be instituted to identify and prepare long term strategies for the existing, large intact watersheds in British Columbia.**

- **Such strategies should incorporate the already announced processes for preparation of system plans for provincial parks and forest wilderness areas.**

- **Inter-agency, public planning processes should be undertaken to ensure consideration of old growth values where development is proposed in any remaining large, undeveloped watershed, prior to completion and acceptance of those system plans.**

- **Further scientific analysis and literature review should be undertaken to substantiate the role and value of these watersheds in an overall conservation strategy. This work should be comprehensive and subject to broad, inter-disciplinary peer review.**

The Kitlope

The group was unanimous in concluding that this large area (some 300,000 hectares or more) could not be justified for short term deferral under the terms of the old growth conservation of areas project. However, the group did record a number of observations concerning old growth, over and above comments which relate to the other intact watersheds reviewed by the group.

There are areas within the drainage which quite clearly appear to have high old growth value. Although the proposed total development will directly impact only four percent of the land area, any plans for the next two years need to be reviewed to ensure that they do not affect critical old growth and thus impair the contribution which the drainage may make to the long term conservation strategy. These values include:

Ecological Values:

- Representative forest types of the C.W.H. (Cedar Western Hemlock) which are not well represented in protected areas although widespread on the coast in a wide area of unroaded forest
- Productive Douglas Fir stands which are near the northern limit of their range, and in any case, not well represented
- Productive alluvial Sitka Spruce, although in highly fragmented locations
- Prime grizzly bear habitat
- Possible Marbled Murrelet nesting areas
- Wild runs of 5 species of salmon, steelhead, and eulichan, in association with old growth forest

Subjective Values:

- Important heritage features, including village and other archaeological sites of the Haisla people
- Fiordland scenery

Many of the above issues are already dealt with in the plan prepared by the tenure holder. The Kitlope has the potential to become an issue with high public profile. A special process should be initiated involving further study and initiation of a planning process to resolve the wider land and resource conservation and preservation issues which the various proposals have raised.

The Koeye

The group was unable to reach consensus on this candidate for deferral as intact watershed. Some members argue that imminent development would irreparably mar long term conservation options in what is a rare hyper-maritime eco-system containing significant grizzly bear and salmon associated with significant old growth forests. Other members felt that they were not able, on the evidence presented, to agree that the proposal to temporarily defer the entire drainage was justified. They did, however, acknowledge the important old growth values in the drainage.

It is therefore proposed that:

- **The Old Growth Management Committee approach the licensee and the Ministry of Environment to see if long term options can be kept open without a significant negative impact on MacMillan Bloedel harvesting plans in the general area.**

The Tahsish Kwois

It was proposed by a number of applicants that the Kwois, the lower Tahsish and the Silburn be deferred as intact watersheds. It was agreed by all participants that this area contains recognized ecological and natural values of high significance. Old growth values include significant vegetation; in particular the proposed Tahsish-Kwois ecological reserve. Roosevelt Elk and, potentially, marbled murrelets are important wildlife species. Other values, not truly old growth in nature, include geological formations, wilderness and recreation as well as archaeologic interest.

However, this is a most complex issue. The proposed short term road construction and harvesting activity is the result of a great deal of time consuming, thoughtful and intensive study and review. Some group members believed that there was no justification in deferring that development for further review. It was felt that the development and harvesting would not significantly harm the old growth ecological values provided they were consistent with the plan. These members also emphasized the need to implement the recommended ecological reserve.

Other group members observed that this area, of all proposals on Vancouver Island, exhibits the most outstanding variety of ecological and subjective values associated with old growth. It is, therefore, the best candidate to become a major conservation area in the long term strategy. Imminent development in the Silburn would, in their best estimation, severely impact that potential.

It is therefore recommended that:

- **The Old Growth Management Committee review this issue and either confirm the imminent development or seek a deferral.**

Dealing with Old Growth Dependent Wildlife

In the course of the review the group was required to deal with a number of issues relative to critical old growth habitats for certain wildlife species, some of which are on the province's red list of endangered species. It became apparent that some common policies and processes were needed for further consideration of those proposals involving these species. A number of observations and conclusions were drawn which, if acceptable, should be applied to all candidates involving these species.

Spotted Owl

A number of candidates in the Lower Mainland proposed deferral because of spotted owl sightings, nests, etc., in the vicinity of proposed harvesting.

The sub-group recognized and accepted the importance of protecting Spotted Owl habitat. However, difficulties were experienced in dealing with individual proposals because of their relationship to the overall work of the Spotted Owl Recovery Team and the associated inter-ministry planning processes. In one instance (Sumallo) it was not possible to achieve a consensus recommendation.

It is therefore recommended that, notwithstanding the individual recommendations from the sub-group on Spotted Owl candidates:

- **The Spotted Owl Recovery Team be directed to review the deferral proposals and identify or confirm those which are justified for temporary deferral, by September 30.**

- **The preparation of a plan for Spotted Owl habitat protection and management be considered as a priority component for the old growth project, and that a plan be prepared by September 1, 1992.**

Marbled Murrelet

This elusive species poses another distinctive problem. The population size and condition is subject to conjecture. It is poorly documented, even after vigilant and sometimes exhausting study. While it is widely believed to be old growth dependent, argument continues to rage over exactly where it nests, what types of forest are preferred, and in what stage of succession. Although studies are now underway by a number of researchers, no clear guidelines have yet emerged to assist in determining how best to conserve habitat which may or may not be important nesting areas.

The group, recognizing that this is a red listed species, readily accepted that deferrals had to be considered. However, it was difficult to propose an effective short term strategy which would ensure protection of critical habitat when there is no accepted data on where the Murrelets nest.

Current research (the first comprehensive work in Canada) is fully supported and cooperatively sponsored by the forest industry and the governments of Canada and B.C.

After much debate the following interim recommendations were prepared:

- **Where Marbled Murrelet nests and confirmed sightings have been verified, areas *can be justified for short term deferral.***

- **In an area of imminent development, where , in the opinion of experts from either the Ministry of Environment or the Provincial Museum, Marbled Murrelet nesting is likely, development should only occur after consultation between the agencies and the operator, to ensure that all reasonable precautions have been taken not to destroy nesting areas.**

- **Further research into Marbled Murrelet behaviour should be encouraged.**

Old Growth and Wildlife Habitat in the Robson Valley

The sub-group dealt with a large number (8) of candidate proposals in the area from McBride to Valemount. Many, if not all, of these proposals indicated that there was a need for rapid action to protect old growth in this area and, in particular, to respond to critical habitat issues to protect caribou.

Lack of details and an overall approach to the issue in this particular area resulted in the sub-group relying heavily on the individual recommendations of Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Environment staff. However, it appeared that there is a need for a coordinated and concerted effort to deal with the issues being raised and to integrate this with the large parks and protected areas already existing in this vicinity.

It is therefore recommended that:

- **The Ministry of Forests consider a process to prepare an old growth strategy to protect critical wildlife and epresentative habitat types in association with existing protected areas in the Robson Valley.**

Deferrals and the Long Term Strategy

The role of the deferral process in developing the provincial long term strategy is discussed elsewhere. The group did, however, identify a number of situations where very specific observations and recommendations were warranted, concerning, for example, ecological reserve proposals. These are dealt with in the next section as notations against individual candidates.

SECTION FOUR - THE RESULTS OF INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATE AREA REVIEW

Some one hundred and twenty-seven proposals were received before the deadline. These involved eighty-seven (87) specific areas and two general recommendations. The sub-groups' conclusions are summarized below in Table 1.

The following tables briefly summarize for each proposal, the Forest District name and location involved, the key old growth related features, the recommendations and notations of the review group.

Except where specifically noted, all recommendations and notations reflect the unanimous opinion of the group.

At the date of writing some late proposals had been received. These will be considered by the Old Growth Strategy Project in the development of the long-term strategy.

TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF DEFERRAL CANDIDATES

1.	Candidates recommended for deferral	17
2.	Candidates where no consensus was reached	4
3.	Candidates not deferred because development not imminent *(but MOF map notation to ensure no further development for 2 years)*	20
4.	Candidates referred to existing planning processes	25
5.	Referral to larger government studies needed	2
6.	Referral to study of the Marbled Murrelet prior to decisions	8
7.	Candidates not recommended for deferral	11
8.	Candidates not site-specific	2
Total areas proposed (127 individual applications)		89

RESULTS OF THE SCREENING OF CANDIDATE AREA SUBMISSIONS BY THE CONSERVATION OF AREAS SUBGROUP

AUGUST 8 - 10, 1990

Note: Submissions were numbered as they arrived at the Old Growth Project Office. In the following list they have been re-ordered by Ministry of Forests' Forest District. There may be more than one submission for a particular candidate area.

CHILLIWACK FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	12, 16, 37, 55, 62
Location:	Radium Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation;** notation to Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources

Submission Number:	125
Location:	Greendrop Lake
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Subjective*: outdoor recreation and wilderness potential
Recommendation:	**Deferral,** predicated on the spotted owl habitat, importance of Ministry of Environment spotted owl Recovery program

Submission Number:	121
Location:	Ford Mountain
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	not considered old growth; 2nd growth, age class 6, 7 Douglas Fir; but could be functioning as old growth
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral; Ministry of Forests should review** (to determine whether or not it is functioning as old growth) before deciding on 2 year map notation.

Submission Number:	124
Location:	Sumallo/Snass
Biogeoclimatic description:	MHb, CWHb
Old Growth?	
Imminent Development?	yes; proposal for harvesting is 200h.
Values:	Red listed (endangered) spotted owl; critical winter range for deer; rare forest type should warrant deferral; the process following this one should deal with industry; possible division of area. Dale Seip of Spotted Owl Recovery Team: recovery team would prefer not have any development while research is in progress. This southern habitat is a priority over more northerly areas.
Recommendation:	**No resolution**; some members felt that they could not support deferral due to amount of similar habitat already protected in the vicinity. On the other hand, it is a priority area for spotted owls in B.C. and it is contiguous to protected areas in the U.S.

Submission Number:	126
Location:	Sowaqua/Karen Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHc, b
Old Growth?	yes; total of 144 hectares of old growth
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* Spotted Owl habitat; *Subjective*: Visual management issue
Recommendation:	**Deferral;** boundaries should be reviewed by Ministry of Forests, Ministry of Environment.

Submission Number:	123
Location:	Anderson River - South
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year map notation

Submission Number:	122
Location:	Anderson River - North
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, c
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; most outside this area though the road construction to get to other harvesting areas is the primary concern
Note:	area is transected by a utility corridor: hydro, gas
Recommendation:	**No resolution;** refer to general notation on Spotted owl habitat; note to Spotted Owl Recovery Team that the area requires further research.

Submission Number:	65
Location:	Clear Creek Hotsprings
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, MHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	strictly a transportation issue, not a forest issue recreation/tourism destination value is a Pocket Wilderness proposal
Recommendation:	**No deferral**; recommend to Ministry of Forests and Regional district that though area meets old growth criterion, **local planning process** should prevail and take into consideration that the Chilliwack Outdoors Club has proposed this area for old growth protection, and as a Pocket Wilderness Area; **Ministry of Forests should check for presence old growth Cedar;** if confirmed, then this area would be reconsidered by the C.O.A. Sub-group.

Submission Number:	63
Location:	Eagle Creek Headwaters
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological*: from a biological standpoint this habitat is not rare or scarce; *Subjective*: high esthetic, wilderness, recreation values
Recommendation:	**No deferral** due to lack of significant old growth values; **refer to Ministry of Forests re: Pocket Wilderness Proposal**

Submission Number:	127
Location:	Liumchen Lake
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, MHa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; road development in 1992 for harvesting access
Values:	*Ecological:* spotted owl habitat; giant salamander; rare plants - not necessarily old growth issue but further research needed; *Subjective:* wilderness, outdoor recreation, community water supply issues
Recommendation:	**Deferral**

Submission Number:	51
Location:	Spotted Owl Habitat
Note:	see Spotted Owl Report 1987 Spotted owl habitat being addressed on a site specific basis
Submission Number:	64
Location:	North Slope of Sumas Mountain
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, a
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; unroaded areas are rare in this ecoregion, ecosection
Values:	*Ecological:* small mammals and bats, should be reviewed, flag wildlife values; *Subjective:* important park buffer; readily accessible Centennial Trail
Recommendation:	**Deferral** until Local Resource Use Plan is carried out; suggest Ministry of Forests' Local Resource Use Planning process consider old growth values within regional context.
Submission Number:	2
Location:	Eagle Mountain
Biogeoclimatic description:	MHa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* no special biological values but check for yellow cedar; *Subjective*: high esthetic and recreation values, good public access
Recommendation:	**Deferral**

Submission Number:	10
Location:	Seymour Demonstration Forest
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWH
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes: 2 cutblocks of 14.3 hectares each land is a Crown Land lease for 999 years
Values:	*Ecological / Subjective*: significant old growth values of public recreational and educational interest due to proximity to Vancouver
Recommendation:	**No deferral; Greater Vancouver Water District should consider deferring these two blocks as part of Demonstration Forest program;** Greater Vancouver Watershed District should clarify its intent with respect to old growth and incorporate into demonstration panels.

Submission Number:	9
Location:	Coquitlam River Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWH
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	Summary: based on the data available, no argument for deferral, but if large stands of Yellow or Red cedar are confirmed, area should be deferred
Recommendation:	**Letter to Greater Vancouver Water District** to seek cooperation in assessing Red and Yellow cedar.

SQUAMISH FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	17
Location:	Douglas Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, MH
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because there is no threat of imminent development, but Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

Submission Number:	18
Location:	Ure Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, c
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** does not meet scarcity criteria, no other compelling arguments.

SUNSHINE COAST FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	1, 27, 29, 35, 70, 120
Location:	Tetrahedron Plateau
Biogeoclimatic description:	MHa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological*: no outstanding values; *Subjective*: significant accessible recreation and esthetic values
Recommendation:	**Referral to Local Resource Use Planning process** to take old growth into account; LRUP has already deferred logging in proximity of Edwards Lake; aesthetic and recreational values associated with the old growth should be considered in plans near Bachelor Lake as well.

LILLOOET FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	21
Location:	Tyaughton Creek/Spruce Lake
Biogeoclimatic description:	ESSFdv, MSdc
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	area is Engleman spruce; not Ponderosa pine as applicant suggested; if Ponderosa Pine is present, there would be a clear case for deferral based on scarcity.
Recommendation:	**No deferral** based on our understanding that there is no Ponderosa Pine old growth within the proposal; **note wilderness issue to Ministry of Forests' Wilderness Designation process.**

KAMLOOPS FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	33
Location:	Lac Du Bois
Biogeoclimatic description:	IDFab
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; area was deferred in the early 1980s, but nothing came of it
Values:	*Ecological*: grasslands, transition areas; Flammulated owl habitat; *Subjective*: local recreation values
Recommendation:	**Referral to Local Resource Use Planning process** for reasons of significant biological and subjective values; see letter from district (would qualify for old growth deferral based on criteria)

CLEARWATER FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number: 46
Location: Caliqata Lake
Biogeoclimatic description: ESSFm
Old Growth? yes
Imminent Development? no
Values: *Ecological*: already well represented in Wells Gray Provincial Park

Recommendation: **No deferral**, but Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

SALMON ARM FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number: 71
Location: Celista Creek - McNomee Creek
Biogeoclimatic description: ICHm
Old Growth? yes
Imminent Development? yes
Values: *Ecological:* outstanding specimens of old growth Red-Cedar; not scarce, protected elsewhere, but over 100 kilometers away; intact watershed; *Subjective:* accessible recreation and viewing opportunities

Recommendation: **Deferral**

Submission Number: 86
Location: Hanakwa Lake
Biogeoclimatic description: ICHw
Old Growth? yes
Imminent Development? yes; OTT, but long term termination date
Values: *Ecological*: some outstanding individual stands of trees; *Subjective*: substantial recreational values

Recommendation: **No deferral, but recommend a technical review** to ensure that significant or scarce values are not threatened.

Submission Number:	90
Location:	Mt. Grace
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHw, ESSf
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; proposed logging is close to proposed wilderness area
Values:	*Ecological*: possible "giant spruce" noted in submission
Recommendation:	**No deferral**, but **recommend a technical review** to confirm about "giant spruce" which should be protected by a deferral.

Submission Number:	88
Location:	Upper Seymour River
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHWv, ESSf
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; big timber by interior standards, interior wet-belt; harvesting probably taking place there now
Values:	*Ecological*: caribou habitat, rare opportunity to protect contiguous habitat from valley to mountain-top in this area; *Subjective:* recreation and wilderness values
Recommendation:	**Deferral of further road construction** until Ministry of Forests wilderness proposal is decided upon.

Submission Number:	87
Location:	Fransen Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHm
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral**, but Ministry of Forests 2 year map notation

Submission Number:	89
Location:	Cinnemousun Narrows
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHm
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral, but Ministry of Forests 2 year map notation**

Submission Number:	91
Location:	Mara Meadows
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral, but 2 year map notation and consider as addition to adjacent Ecological Reserves**

PENTICTON FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	32
Location:	Brent Mountain - Sheep Rock
Biogeoclimatic description:	MS, ESSF
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; Timber Supply Area plan is in process
Values:	*Ecological*: core old growth forest type is protected in Cathedral Lakes Provincial Park; *Subjective*: high recreation and esthetic values to Okanagan
Recommendation:	**No deferral due to representation elsewhere; referral to Ministry of Forest Regional District to consider impact on viewscapes, esthetics in planning process.**

REVELSTOKE FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	61
Location:	Mount Revelstoke/Glacier Ecosystem
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICH, ESSF
Old Growth?	old growth exists within area
Imminent Development?	some imminent development
Values:	Much of old growth in the adjacent National Parks lost as a result of forest fires; lower elevation old growth habitat is important to caribou.
Recommendation:	Too large an area for outright deferral; although obvious natural values for National Parks; **requires an inter-governmental study.**

GOLDEN FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	68
Location:	Cummins River Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICH, ESSF
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	proposal is within an area which is already under study and public review
Recommendation:	**No deferral; referral to existing planning process** which should be completed, recognizing old growth values; ie. no decision on forest harvesting should be made until the inter-agency and public review is completed.

CRANBROOK FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	118
Location:	Perry Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	IDFG
Old Growth?	possibly some old growth
Imminent Development?	no
Values:	inventory unclear about age classes
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because no imminent development; Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

Submission Number:	119
Location:	Upper Angus Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICH, ESSF
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Values:	*Ecological:* significant caribou habitat
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because no imminent development; Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

KOOTENAY FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	112
Location:	Ecological Reserve Proposal #263, east of Kokanee Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	IDFb, IWHa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; no harvesting proposed, but road is proposed in the next 2 years
Values:	*Ecological*: old growth values, proposed Ecological Reserve
Recommendation:	**Deferral of road construction** for an opportunity to review options for another road location outside of Ecological Reserve (assuming Ecological Reserve goes ahead)

QUESNEL FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	117
Location:	ESSF Forest
Biogeoclimatic description:	ESSF, SBSj
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; area represents 1/4 to 1/2 of the Annual Allowable Cut within this Timber Supply Area; more a management issue than a conservation issue involving the general area west of Bowron Lake
Values:	*Ecological*: significant mountain caribou habitat
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** area very large and not site specific.

Submission Number:	42
Location:	Itcha-Ilgachuz Mountains
Biogeoclimatic description:	ESSFg, SBSa, MSd
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological*: significant caribou habitat, but not within area subject to harvesting (Area B)
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** the only portion under imminent development is not the critical area from an ecological standpoint, and a planning process is already in place which should be complete before any critical old growth is affected.

PRINCE GEORGE FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	111
Location:	Slim Creek Cedars
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral,** but support **Ecological Reserve proposal.**

Submission Number:	106
Location:	Herrick Creek Valley
Biogeoclimatic description:	SBSf
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* accessible valley bottom old growth cottonwood and spruce; cave formations; wildlife habitat for grizzly, caribou; see letter from N.E.C.; more biological information needed; *Subjective:* high esthetics; ski-touring values
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** recommend planning to identify accessible old growth transect for an **Ecological Reserve proposal.**

ROBSON VALLEY FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	34, 47
Location:	Morkill River, Hellroaring and Forget-Me-Not Creeks
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHk, ESSFo
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; top priority for local forest district for wilderness "Rocky Mountain Boundary Proposal"
Values:	*Ecological:* representative values; low elevation valley-bottom old growth corridor habitat.
Recommendation:	**Deferral** (blocks 302, 303, 302-1, 302-2); (see letter from local district office)

Submission Number:	40, 41, 84
Location:	East Twin Creek and Fleet Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	ESSFo, ICHk
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; road building and 108.2 hectares of harvesting planned in 1990 for East Twin; Fleet creek has already been harvested
Values:	*Ecological:* caribou winter range
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because of lack of significant biological values but **subscript to Ministry of Forests** that they must recognize and consider old growth protection within their management plans and ensure planning accounts for caribou winter range.

Submission Number:	48
Location:	West Twin Old Growth Reserve
Biogeoclimatic description:	ESSFh, ICHk
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; 128.8 hectares within imminent development
Values:	*Ecological* : applicant and local biologist expressed extreme interest in old growth due to critical caribou habitat
Recommendation:	**Deferral** based on critical caribou habitat

Submission Number:	115
Location:	Betty Wendle Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	ESSF, SBS
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no imminent development
Values:	*Subjective*: planning process already in place between Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Parks
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because no imminent development; Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

Submission Number:	66
Location:	Ozalenka Valley/Clyde Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year map notation

Submission Number:	31
Location:	Upper Dore River Tributary
Biogeoclimatic description:	ESSF
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; development is imminent on 90 hectares
Values:	*Ecological:* area is already heavily fragmented, very little old growth left
Recommendation:	**No deferral**

Submission Number:	56
Location:	Lower Dore River
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHj
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral,** but Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

Submission Number:	43
Location:	Raush Valley
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICH, ESSF
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests **2 year map notation**

Submission Number:	54
Location:	Tête Jaune Local Resource Use Plan
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHj
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Note:	Local Resource Use Plan does not consider old growth values
Recommendation:	**No deferral,** but recommend old growth values should be recognized in **Local Resource Use Plan.**

DAWSON CREEK FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	7, 39
Location:	Link Creek - Mountain Creek Valley
Biogeoclimatic description:	SBSj
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; active seismic work in the area so consultation with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources would be very important; Link Creek area is the most controversial
Values:	*Ecological:* old growth timber types not scarce; *Subjective:* important to local people; significant visual corridor; mountain recreation access
Recommendation:	**No deferral; referral to Local Resource Use Planning process** to account for old growth values.

FORT ST. JOHN FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	85, 102
Location:	Sikanni Chief River
Biogeoclimatic description:	BWBSa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; seismic line
Values:	*Ecological:* local scarcity of alluvial spruce; bordering on critical by northern standards, but old growth planning process not caught up with rest of province.
Recommendation:	**Deferral;** Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources referral (natural gas issue)

FORT NELSON FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	38
Location:	Prophet River/Fort Nelson
Biogeoclimatic description:	BWBSnw
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* local critical scarcity of alluvial spruce
Recommendation:	**Deferral** based on local scarcity and Prophet River Old Growth Study; Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources referral; Ministry of Forests review with licensee.

FORT ST. JAMES FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	69
Location:	Lower Sustut River Valley
Biogeoclimatic description:	SBSe
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Values:	*Subjective*: Class 1 recreational fishery involved
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

KISPIOX FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	57
Location:	Catherine Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHg
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; (woodlot license)
Values:	*Ecological* : local scarcity, large cedar
Recommendation:	**Deferral and propose an Ecological Reserve**

Submission Number:	60
Location:	Upper Mill Lake
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHg, CWHws
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; block 4 is already logged, blocks 10, 11 are next
Values:	*Ecological:* Hemlock/Balsam forest type not scarce
Recommendation:	**No deferral**

Submission Number:	28
Location:	Oliver Creek Trail
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; Local Resource Use Plan does not consider old growth management
Values:	*Ecological:* representative of old growth for transitional subzone; scientific research value; provides habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species
Recommendation:	**Deferral; propose for Ecological Reserve**

KALUM FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	59
Location:	Hanna Ridge
Biogeoclimatic description:	ICHg
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; region is about to issue a contract to study the landscape values along the highway
Values:	*Ecological:* not the most outstanding, but good representative sample; similar habitat available but not close to the highway, grizzly bear habitat; large Sub-alpine Fir; *Subjective:* good recreational and esthetics values; wildlife viewing; more research needed to identify other potential areas that may be better to protect in the long run.
Recommendation:	**Deferral** pending a better candidate for an Ecological Reserve

Submission Number:	13, 30, 58, 96, 99
Location:	Kitlope Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; productive area is 60,000 hectares in extent; 8500 hectares proposed for harvesting = about 14% of productive area
Values:	*Ecological/Subjective*: intact watershed; some unusual forest types: ex. Kitlope Lake is the northern limit for productive Douglas fir
Recommendation:	**No deferral**; see Intact Watershed statement; issue goes well beyond old growth; beyond what could be justified on strictly old growth grounds; **more research needed,** ie. MacKinnon/Zimmerman Old Growth Conservation Strategy study for the North Coast.

MID-COAST FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	20
Location:	Koeye River Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHd
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; 180 hectares slated for logging
Values:	*Ecological:* significant large multi-predator ecosystem, increasingly rare
Recommendation:	**No consensus:** On the one hand some members felt that these intact watersheds should not be compromised while a strategy is being developed; they can not be re-created. On other hand, others felt that what is being proposed for logging is just a small part of the watershed; felt scarce, unique value of intact watershed is not fully demonstrated.

DUNCAN FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	93
Location:	Victoria Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; Greater Victoria Watershed District has been harvesting Douglas fir for 40 years
Recommendation:	**No deferral; advise Greater Victoria Watershed District** concerning old growth set asides

Submission Number:	4, 81
Location:	Walbran Valley
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological* : Marbled Murrelets
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** recently discovered evidence of marbled murrelet presence in the valley requires additional technical review; general recommendations concerning this and other areas where marbled murrelet appears is on p. 20.

PORT ALBERNI FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number: 11, 77
Location: Upper Carmanah
Biogeoclimatic description: CWHb
Old Growth? yes
Imminent Development? yes

Recommendation: **No deferral; notation concerning marbled murrelet issue**

Submission Number: 15, 78
Location: Mid-Klanawa River
Biogeoclimatic description: CWHb
Old Growth? yes
Imminent Development? yes
Values: *Ecological:* rare plants: erithronium, coridalis, oxalis; marbled murrelet

Recommendation: **No deferral; notation concerning marbled murrelet;** note reserve pending for Oxalis

Submission Number: 94
Location: Oxalis/Oregon
Biogeoclimatic description: CWHb; is actually same area as Mid-Klanawa
Old Growth? yes
Imminent Development? yes; MacMillan Bloedel is reviewing plans and is going to propose a reserve
Values: *Ecological:* rare plants: erithronium, coridalis, oxalis; marbled murrelet

Recommendation: **No deferral; notation concerning marbled murrelet;** note reserve pending for Oxalis; see MacMillan Bloedel proposal

Submission Number:	3
Location:	Nahmint
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; cutting permit issued
Values:	*Ecological:* Douglas fir old growth/ dogwood association not well protected/ represented
Recommendation:	**Deferral** of the Douglas fir (cutblock 517) based on scarcity; review within drainage context for representative ecological Reserve

Submission Number:	53, 95, 108, 116
Location:	Clayoquot Valley
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Recommendation:	**Referral to the Clayoquot Sound Task Force**; see letter highlighting team's approach to old growth issues and process for Clayoquot Sound

Submission Number:	104
Location:	Bulson Creek, Clayoquot Sound
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; development quite likely in the next 2 years
Recommendation:	**Referral to Clayoquot Sound Task Force**

Submission Number:	75
Location:	Flores Island
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**Referral to Clayoquot Sound Task Force**

Submission Number:	83
Location:	Sydney River Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**Referral to Clayoquot Sound Task Force**

Submission Number:	73, 103, 110
Location:	Megin River Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**Referral to Clayoquot Sound Task Force** *Note:* For all submissions within Clayoquot Sound: referral to the Clayoquot Sound Task Force; letter highlighting team's approach to old growth issues and process for the Clayoquot Sound

Submission Number:	101
Location:	Lower Escalante River
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no imminent development proposed in the beach area which applicant states as key value
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because area slated for logging does not appear to be in the proposal area; Ministry of Forests 2 year map notation

CAMPBELL RIVER FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	8, 72, 109, 113
Location:	Lower Tahsish/ Kwois Drainages
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, MH
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; development is imminent in southern portion; the upper half of the Tahsish drainage is already logged
Values:	*Ecological*: Roosevelt elk, marbled murrelets, bear, salmon, limestone caves, big spruce, northern extension of Douglas fir; watershed issue for Kwois and Silburn; *Subjective*: native cultural values clearly articulated; most critical of all the watershed submissions in terms of short term deferral, preserving options
Recommendation:	**No resolution;** team unresolved on whether this area warrants outright deferral; concern over loss of options on this part of coast versus complexity of putting old growth process on top of what is in place already; notation that existing planning process should be required to ensure old growth values are adequately protected.

Submission Number:	5
Location:	Cachalot Creek Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological* : fisheries, marbled murrelet; no scarce old growth values
Recommendation:	**No deferral; refer to West Strathcona Planning Process;** notations concerning **marbled murrelet, intact watershed** issue

Submission Number:	6, 114
Location:	Lower Tsitika
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* possible red listed species: Keen's Myotis; *Subjective:* visual impact being managed
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** old growth forest types are already well represented in existing reserves in the immediate vicinity; visual concerns noted; long-eared bat needs research; recommend that Tsitika Implementation Committee discuss Keen's Myotis with biologists.

Submission Number:	107
Location:	Kelsey Bay Division, Block 2129
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* no significant biological values
Recommendation:	**No deferral**

Submission Number:	80, 97
Location:	Power River Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation;** notation concerning intact watershed issue

Submission Number:	79, 98
Location:	Nasparti Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation;** notation concerning **intact watershed** issue

Submission Number:	105
Location:	Calvin, Beano, Unnamed Creeks
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	possible imminent development in Beano creek for 1992; Unnamed creek logging is underway
Values:	*Ecological*: marbled murrelet; *Subjective* : recreational tourism values
Recommendation:	**No deferral; marbled murrelet** notation

PORT MCNEIL FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	14
Location:	Utlah Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

Submission Number:	26, 44, 52, 74
Location:	Klaskish - East Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* marbled murrelets, Roosevelt elk; *Subjective:* high aesthetic sensitivity
Recommendation:	**No deferral; refer to West Strathcona Planning Process;** notation concerning **intact watershed** issue; pursue **ecological reserve expansion** for alluvial spruce; check impact of proposed cutblock; suggest dealing with high esthetic sensitivity to protect views from Brooks Peninsula; check on presence of marbled murrelets; check on Roosevelt elk.

Submission Number:	92
Location:	KBABMT Kayaking Recreation Area
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	possible imminent development; cutting permit in Battle Bay for 1992; expecting a development plan for Power and Battle Bay in 1991
Values:	*Subjective:* visual aesthetics issue
Recommendation:	**No deferral; refer to West Strathcona Planning Process**

Submission Number:	49
Location:	Klaklakama Lake - Nimpkish Valley
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological:* valley bottom Douglas fir stand supposed to be set aside as a wildlife corridor; deer winter range
Recommendation:	**Deferral;** check status of Douglas fir

Submission Number:	67
Location:	Nimpkish Lake
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHa
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no; privately owned
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because of lack of imminent development

Submission Number:	100
Location:	Shusharti Watershed
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; 3 blocks proposed 1992 - 1994, but location unknown
Values:	*Ecological:* probable representation in Cape Scott Park; not a scarce or unusual biological occurrence
Recommendation:	**No deferral**; notation concerning **watershed** issue

QUEEN CHARLOTTES FOREST DISTRICT

Submission Number:	25, 45
Location:	Gray Bay - Cumshewa Head
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; development is imminent for blocks G200, G300,G400
Values:	*Ecological*: mature spruce/willow/crabapple association; marbled murrelet in south blocks; *Subjective*: high recreation values; visual impacts; viewscapes for trail in Cumshewa Head; heritage value: Haida village sites, mass burial sites
Recommendation:	**No deferral; referral to local planning process;** notation on **ecological values** and need to protect spruce/crabapple/willow association; notation on **marbled murrelet**

Submission Number:	23
Location:	Government Creek
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHd
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; Local Resource Use Plan is in progress for Government creek
Values:	*Ecological*: marbled murrelet presence; high fisheries values: steelhead, wild coho run; benchmark values; watershed issue
Recommendation:	**Deferral if presence of marbled murrelet documented;** advise Local Resource Use Planning process of old growth values concern.

Submission Number:	24
Location:	Laggins Creek, Long Inlet
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHb, MH
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; 100 hectares slated for logging
Recommendation:	**Deferral if presence of marbled murrelet** documented

Submission Number:	36
Location:	Yakoun Lake - Graham Island
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	no
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation**

Submission Number:	22
Location:	Tlell River (Upper Tributaries)
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes; crown lands
Values:	*Ecological:* forest type representation unclear; possible large spruce; elk habitat; salmonid values
Recommendation:	**No deferral** because no imminent development in Block 400; Ministry of Forests 2 year **map notation;** regarding road proposal: if there is in fact large spruce in association with devil's club we would recommend it for deferral; **suggest a review of the issue by the Ministry of Crown Lands.** Road building should be deferred until Ministry can substantiate/ resolve the issue regarding Block 400.

Submission Number:	19
Location:	South End of Eden Lake
Biogeoclimatic description:	CWHc
Old Growth?	yes
Imminent Development?	yes
Values:	*Ecological* : forest types represented elsewhere
Recommendation:	**No deferral;** notation re: **marbled murrelets**

GENERAL SUBMISSION:

Submission Number:	50
Location:	100 Meter Leave Strip Along all Water Courses in B.C.
Biogeoclimatic description:	
Old Growth?	
Imminent Development?	
Recommendation:	**Area too general;** not site specific enough to address in this process

SECTION FIVE - NEXT STEPS

The review of candidates and preparation of recommendations completes the first step in the process.

Review of Candidates

These proposals must now be reviewed by the original proponents, by those who are directly impacted, and by the other Old Growth Project participants.

While that process is underway it is proposed that:

- The Ministry of Forests immediately implement a notation and review process which will ensure that options to follow the recommendations of the group are not lost during any period now required for further discussion.

- The Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources review the recommendations for deferral and establish mineral claim staking reserves over applicable candidates.

New Candidates

The sub-group has considered the issue of whether further deferral candidates should be considered. The process used so far has involved a province-wide public referral. Though the time frame was tight, it did involve all key interests. If the Conservation of Areas Team is to be able to achieve its second major task, it cannot be continuously dealing with deferrals. The Ministry of Forests routinely deals with special notations and reserves against harvesting. If any further deferrals are warranted, an internal Ministry process should be employed using the techniques and criteria documented in this report.

Long Term Plan

The Conservation of Areas Team will immediately begin the process of preparing a long term strategy for conservation. This will fit with the work already underway for systematic planning of the Provincial Parks, Forest Wilderness Areas, and Ecological Reserves systems.

APPENDIX I
Candidate Area
Nomination Form

APPENDIX II
Candidate Areas:
Summary of Results by Category

CONSERVATION OF AREAS WORKING TEAM
OLD GROWTH FORESTS STRATEGY PROJECT

• CANDIDATE AREA NOMINATION FORM •

Beginning May 25, 1990, the Conservation Areas Working Team will be reviewing an initial set of candidate old growth areas for potential deferral using the following criteria:

- **old growth definition**
- **imminent development**
- **ecological value**
- **subjective factors**

Please locate the area on the enclosed small scale map and also provide a larger scale detailed map that clearly indicates the location and extent of the candidate area.
PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH CANDIDATE AREA

Name of Candidate Area: _____

General Geographic Location (eg North Coast): _____

Nearest Community or Settlement: _____

Approximate Size (in ha.): _____

Name of Organization, Agency or Individual submitting candidate area: _____

_____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

1. OLD GROWTH DEFINITION

The candidate area must contain old growth forest, based on the following definition adopted by the Old Growth Forest Strategy Project:

> *"Old growth is a forest that contains live and dead trees of various sizes, species composition, and age class structure that are part of a slowly changing but dynamic ecosystem. Old-growth forests include climax forests, but do not exclude sub-climax or even mid-seral forests. The age and structure of old-growth varies significantly by forest type and from one biogeoclimatic zone to another. For example, a coastal old-growth forest could be 200 years old or 1,000 years old; whereas interior old-growth could be 100 years old."*
>
> *Interim Consensus Statement on Old-Growth Forests (FLULC, 1989)*

Does the candidate area meet this definition? *yes* _____ *no* _____

Old Growth Description (tree species, age, height, condition) _____

_____

_____

2. IMMINENT DEVELOPMENT

To be considered for immediate deferral, the area must be slated for development within two years. Indicate the kind of proposed development and, under *comments*, estimate the proportion of the area that would be affected by the development:

	yes	*no*	*don't know*
Is development imminent within the next 2 years?			
Is it within a current cutting permit?			
Is it within a 5-year plan where development is likely within two years?			
Is it within a subsurface resource exploration or development plan?			
Is it within a transportation or utility development corridor?			
Other development?			
Comments:			

3. ECOLOGICAL VALUE

The degree to which the candidate area represents an old growth ecosystem that is scarce, rapidly diminishing, or especially diverse will be given the most weight in the evaluation process.

Is the candidate area rare/ scarce from a biological perspective? *yes* _____ *no* _____
Explain:

Does the area provide habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered species?
yes _____ *no* _____ *don't know* _____
Explain:

Are fish and wildlife species dependent on this old growth habitat?
yes _____ *no* _____ *don't know* _____
Explain:

Is this old growth forest type represented and protected elsewhere?
yes _____ *no* _____ *why not?* _____ *don't know* _____
Explain:

If not, are there other options?
yes _____ *no* _____ *don't know* _____

3. SUBJECTIVE FACTORS

In addition to the above, the candidate area may have other important values. Please indicate below which of these values apply, including a brief explanation:

_____ Recreation or tourism destination value

_____ Native culture or other heritage value

_____ Spiritual value

_____ Scientific research value

_____ Wilderness value

_____ Aesthetic value

_____ Other value

Comments:

• APPENDIX II •

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 1: Candidate Areas Recommended for Deferral (17)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
CHILLIWACK	Greendrop Lake	CWHb	spotted owl habitat
	Sowaqua/Karen Creek	CWHc, b	spotted owl; boundaries need to be reviewed by MOF, MOE
	Liumchen Lake	CWHb, MHa	spotted owl, rare plants, water supply issue
	North slope of Sumas Mountain	CWHb, a	LRUP in process; wildlife values; rare unroaded area
	Eagle Mountain	MHa	high aesthetic and recreational values; good public access
SALMON ARM	Celista Creek McNomee Creek	ICHm	intact watershed; outstanding specimens of OG Red Cedar
	Upper Seymour R.	ICHWv, ESSf	caribou habitat; wilderness proposal in process
KOOTENAY	Ecological Reserve Proposal 263, east of Kokanee Creek	IDFb, IWHa	proposed EcoReserve; OG values
ROBSON VALLEY	Morkill River, Hellroaring and Forget-Me-Not Creeks	ICHk, ESSFo	low elevation valley-bottom OG corridor habitat
	West Twin Old Growth Reserve	ESSFh, ICHk	critical caribou habitat
FORT ST. JOHN	Sikanni Chief River	BWBSa	local scarcity of alluvial spruce

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 1: Candidate Areas Recommended for Deferral (17)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
FORT NELSON	Prophet River/ Fort Nelson	BWBSnw	local scarcity of alluvial spruce; MOF and other reviews pending
KISPIOX	Catherine Creek	ICHg	propose EcoReserve
	Oliver Creek Trail	CWHb	habitat for rare and endangered species; OG representation for transitional sub-zone; propose EcoReserve
KALUM	Hanna Ridge	ICHg	good representational area; grizzly habitat; deferral pending a better candidate for EcoReserve
PORT ALBERNI	Nahmint (cutblock 517)	CWHb	Douglas Fir scarcity
PORT MCNEIL	Klaklakama Lake Nimpkish Valley	CWHa	valley bottom Douglas Fir set aside as wildlife corridor

CATEGORY 2: Areas Where No Consensus was Reached (4)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
CHILLIWACK	Sumallo/Sumas	MHb, CWHb	Spotted Owl Recovery Team researching area; contiguous to protected areas in U.S.; but other similar areas already protected in the vicinity
	Anderson River North	CWHb,c	spotted owl habitat; note to Recovery Team that area needs further research
MID-COAST	Koeye River Watershed	CWHd	intact watershed issue; strategy needs to be developed; rare multi-predator ecosystem
CAMPBELL RIVER	Lower Tahsish/Kwois Drainages	CWHb, MJH	LRUP already in process; concern over loss of options; critical watershed issue; native cultural values; wildlife values

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 3: No Deferral Because No Imminent Development (20)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
CHILLIWACK	Radium Creek	CWHb	map notation and notation to Energy, Mines & Resources
	Ford Mountain		not considered old growth; MOF to review before map notation
	Anderson River South	CWHb	MOF map notation
SQUAMISH	Douglas Creek	CWHb, MH	MOF map notation
CLEARWATER	Caliqata Lake	ESSFm	MOF map notation
SALMON ARM	Fransen Creek	ICHm	MOF map notation
	Cinnemousun Narrows	ICHm	MOF map notation
	Mara Meadows		MOF map notation and consider as addition to adjacent EcoReserve
CRANBROOK	Perry Creek	IDFG	MOF map notation
	Upper Angus Creek	ICH, ESSF	MOF map notation; significant caribou habitat
ROBSON VALLEY	Betty Wendle Watershed	ESSF, SBS	planning in process: MOF and Parks; MOF map notation
	Ozalenka Valley/Clyde Creek		MOF map notation
	Lower Dore River	ICHj	MOF map notation
	Raush Valley	ICH, ESSF	MOF map notation

CATEGORY 3: No Deferral Because No Imminent Development (20)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
FORT ST. JAMES	Lower Sustut River Valley	SBSe	MOF map notation
PORT ALBERNI	Lower Escalante River		key beach area not threatened; MOF map notation
CAMPBELL RIVER	Power River Watershed		MOF map notation; intact watershed notation
	Nasparti Watershed		MOF map notation; intact watershed notation
PORT MCNEIL	Utlah Creek	CWHb	MOF map notation
QUEEN CHARLOTTES	Yakoun Lake		MOF map notation

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 4: Areas Referred to Existing Planning Processes (25)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
CHILLIWACK	Clear Creek Hotsprings	CWHb, MHb	Local planning process in place; proposal for Pocket Wilderness Area; MOF should check for presence of OG Cedar; if confirmed, area to be reconsidered
	Eagle Creek Headwaters	CWHb	Refer to MOF concerning Pocket Wilderness Proposal
	Seymour Demonstration Forest (2 cutblocks)	CWH	Refer to Greater Vancouver Water District to consider deferring two blocks as part of Demonstration Forest; OG values of public and educational interest
	Coquitlam River Watershed	CWH	Refer to Greater Vancouver Water District to cooperate in assessing red and yellow cedar; if confirmed, area should be deferred
SUNSHINE COAST	Tetrahedron Plateau	MHa	Refer to LRUP to take OG values into account; accessible recreational and aesthetic values
KAMLOOPS	Lac Du Bois	IDFab	Refer to LRUP ; significant biological and subjective values; flammulated owl habitat, transition area (would qualify for OG deferral)
SALMON ARM	Hanakwa Lake	ICHw	Refer to MOF for technical review; some outstanding individual stands of trees

CATEGORY 4: Areas Referred to Existing Planning Processes (25)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
SALMON ARM	Mt. Grace	ICHw, ESSF	Refer to MOF technical review concerning possible "giant spruce"
REVELSTOKE	Mt. Revelstoke/ Glacier Ecosystem	ICH, ESSF	Refer to inter-governmental study; important caribou habitat; adjacent OG lost to forest fires
GOLDEN	Cummins River Watershed	ICH, ESSF	Refer to existing planning process; recognize OG values
PRINCE GEORGE	Slim Creek Cedars		Refer to Ecological Reserve proposal
	Herrick Creek Valley	SBSf	Refer as Ecological Reserve Proposal; accessible valley bottom OG cottonwood, spruce; grizzly, caribou habitat
ROBSON VALLEY	Tête Jaune LRUP	ICHj	Refer to LRUP to recognize OG values in planning process
DAWSON CREEK	Link Creek/Mt. Creek Valley	SBSj	Refer to LRUP to consider OG values; significant visual corridor; mountain recreation; consult with MEMPR
DUNCAN	Victoria Watershed		Refer to Greater Victoria Water District to consider OG values
PORT ALBERNI	Clayoquot Valley	CWHb	Refer to Clayoquot Sound Task Force

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 4: Areas Referred to Existing Planning Processes (25)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
PORT ALBERNI	Bulson Creek, Clayoquot Sound	CWHb	Refer to Clayoquot Sound Task Force
	Flores Island		Refer to Clayoquot Sound Task Force
	Sidney River Watershed	CWHb	Refer to Clayoquot Sound Task Force
	Megin River Watershed	CWHb	Refer to Clayoquot Sound Task Force
CAMPBELL RIVER	Cachalot Creek Watershed	CWHb	Refer to West Strathcona Planning Process; notations concerning marbled murrelet and intact watershed issues
PORT MCNEIL	Klaskish - East Creek	CWHb	Refer to West Strathcona Planning Process; notation concerning intact watershed; pursue EcoReserve expansion; protect views from Brooks Peninsula; check presence of marbled murrelets and Roosevelt elk
	KBABMT Kayaking Recreational Area		Refer to West Strathcona Planning Process
QUEEN CHARLOTTES	Tlell River (Upper Tributary)		Review by Crown Lands concerning road building; MOF map notation; check presence of large spruce devil's club association
	Gray Bay-Cumshewa Head	CWHb	Refer to LRUP; notation on ecological values and marbled murrelet

CATEGORY 5: Referral to Larger Government Studies (2)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
KALUM	Kitlope Watershed	CWHb	More research needed; issue goes beyond what can be justified on OG grounds; intact watershed issue needs further study
PORT MCNEIL	Shusharti Watershed		Refer to further studies on intact watershed issue

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 6: Referral to Study on Marbled Murrelet (8)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
DUNCAN	Walbran Valley	CWHb	suggest verification with MOE biologists
PORT ALBERNI	Upper Carmanah	CWHb	notation concerning marbled murrelets
	Mid-Klanawa River	CWHb	notation concerning murrelets
	Oxalis-Oregon	CWHb	rare plants; McMillan Bloedel is planning to propose a reserve
CAMPBELL RIVER	Calvin, Beano, Unnamed Creeks		recreational tourism values
QUEEN CHARLOTTES	Government Creek	CWHd	advise LRUP of OG values; watershed issue; high fisheries values; deferral if marbled murrelet presence found
	Laggins Creek	CWHb, MH	Deferral if marbled murrelet presence found
	South end of Eden Lake	CWHc	notation concerning marbled murrelets
	Grey Bay - Cumshewa Head *		* area listed under **Areas Referred to Existing Planning Processes** but should also be included in any discussion of Marbled Murrelet presence

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 7: Candidate Areas Not Recommended for Deferral(11)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
SQUAMISH	Ure Creek	CWHb, c	does not meet scarcity criteria
LILLOOET	Tyaughton Creek/Spruce Lake	ESSFdv, MSdc	no Ponderosa Pine OG in area; note wilderness issue to MOF Wilderness Designation process
PENTICTON	Brent Mountain - Sheep Rock	MS, ESSF	representation elsewhere; referral to MOF Regional District to consider impact on viewscapes
QUESNEL	ESSF Forest (w. of Bowron Lake)	ESSF, SBSj	area very large and not site-specific; note caribou habitat
	Itcha-Ilgachuz Mtns	ESSFg, SBSa, MSd	area affected not critical ecologically; planning process in place
ROBSON VALLEY	East Twin Creek and Fleet Creek	ESSFo, ICHk	subscript to MOF concerning OG protection and to ensure planning for caribou winter range
	Upper Dore River Tributary	ESSF	area heavily fragmented; little OG left
KISPIOX	Upper Mill Lake	ICHg, CWHws	forest type not scarce
CAMPBELL RIVER	Lower Tsitika	CWHb	respresentation elsewhere in the vicinity; notations concerning visual concerns and long-eared bat; Tsitika Implementation Committee to discuss Keen's Myotis with biologists

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 7: Candidate Areas Not Recommended for Deferral (11)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
CAMPBELL RIVER	Kelsey Bay Division Block 2129	CWHa	does not meet criteria
PORT MCNEIL	Nimpkish Lake	CWHa	privately owned

CATEGORY 8: Candidates not site- specific (2)

Forest District	Location of Candidate Area	Bio-Geo-Clim Zone	Comments
	Spotted Owl Habitat		spotted owl issue being addressed on a site-specific basis
	100 meter leave strip along all water courses in B.C.		area too general; not site-specific to address in this process